

RESEARCH SUBJECT: Pain Management in Hispanic and Non- Hispanic Patients
STUDENT: Stacie Bobeck RN
DEGREE: Master's of Science in Nursing
COLLEGE: College of Applied Sciences and Technology
DATE: December, 2010

Ethnicity has been shown to be an independent risk factor for inadequate administration of analgesia. The finding may be influenced by Hispanic patients' expectations of pain relief, the perception of the caregivers and cultural dynamics. Pain expression may vary among different populations. Patients from minority populations may be more likely to have poor pain management, less analgesia prescribed and lower doses administered for their pain (McNeil, Sherwood, & Starck, 2003). The purpose of this study is to examine the role of ethnicity on pain expectations, perceptions, and management from the patient and the healthcare team. The framework is Bates Bio-Cultural Model of Pain which integrates the social learning theory into the physiologic explanation of how pain develops and is interpreted. A convenience sample of 100 patients presenting to a tertiary community hospital will be used including both genders ranging in age from 18-75 with similar chief complaints, varying educational levels and marital status. Findings will provide information on how ethnicity affects perceptions and expectations of pain and eventually how well pain is managed.

